

Docket No.: 50023-167

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Tetsuroh NAKAMURA, et al.

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: February 21, 2002

Examiner:

For: LIGHT SOURCE FOR IMAGE READING APPARATUS AND IMAGE READING APPARATUS

Y. Scott
6-3-02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the last paragraph, on page 25, continuing on page 26 as following:

To prevent phenomena like cross talk and flare, the fiber bundle 144 is made to meet the following relation. That is, as shown in FIG. 26, outside diameter Y and its length N and angular aperture ω are so set that length (outside diameter) Y of one side of fiber bundle 144 by length N of optical fiber 140 is smaller than the tangent value of angular aperture ω , that is, the angle between central axis Z of the optical fiber 140 and incident light V .

A plurality of individual optical fibers 140 with a light absorbing layer 143 formed like that or a plurality of fiber bundles 144 with the light absorbing layers 141 formed are placed into

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